



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday, April 05, 2006

Electricity

ATC Places New 345-kV Transmission Line in Service in Wisconsin

The transmission line goes from the Columbia Power Plant to the North Madison Substation in Vienna. ATC will begin construction this month on four miles of 138-kV transmission lines on Madison's east side.

Reuters, 13:03 April 5, 2006.

NJ Power Grid Seen OK for Summer Despite Continued Outage of East Windsor Substation

Reuters, 09:01 April 5, 2006.

Southern's 883 MW Hatch 2 Nuke in Georgia Shut April 5

Technicians were conducting a test when the plant was shut down.

Reuters, 14:23 April 5, 2006.

SCE's 285 MW Mountainview 3 Gas-fired Unit in California Shut April 4

Reuters, 08:28 April 5, 2006.

TMPA's 462 MW Gibbons Creek Coal-fired Unit in Texas Shut on April 5

The plant is being closed to fix a boiler tube leak.

Reuters, 08:07 and 08:28 April 5, 2006.

Entergy's 288 MW (total) Harrison County Gas-fired Units 1 and 2 in Texas Back Mid April

Entergy shut the plant on May 13, 2005, after a natural gas pipeline near the plant exploded, damaging the plant.

Reuters, 08:21 April 5, 2006.

Petroleum

U.S. Refinery Maintenance May be Larger than Normal in April

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Total Refinery Plan Gets County Tax Break in Texas

Jefferson County, Texas voted to give Total Petrochemicals USA a tax break on a \$1 billion planned expansion of its Port Arthur, Texas refinery, a county official said on Tuesday. The plan would add a coking unit which processes the residue at the bottom of oil barrels and turns it into valuable products.

Reuters, 18:59 April 4, 2006.

MMS Reports Updated Gulf of Mexico Oil Restoration Statistics April 5

A total of 87 oil and gas platforms remain evacuated which is equivalent to 10.62 percent of the 819 manned platforms operating in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM). Shut-in oil production is 340,438 BOPD. This shut-in oil production is equivalent to 22.70 percent of the daily oil production in the GOM, which is approximately 1.5 million BOPD. The cumulative shut-in oil production for the period 8/26/05-4/5/06 is 144,171,815 barrels, which is equivalent to 26.33 percent of the yearly production of oil in the GOM (approximately 547.5 million barrels).

www.mms.gov

Venezuela Fires ‘Big Number’ of Oil Workers – Trade Union

Leaders from the Federation of Oil Workers (Fedepetrol) report that state oil company PDVSA has fired workers with foreign oil companies because of their opposition to Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. Rafael Zambrano, executive secretary of Fedepetrol said dismissals started Monday, when “a big number of workers in foreign oil corporations Shell, Chevron, BP and Daeterenko were prevented from entering the headquarters” of the companies. The firings occurred less than 48 hours after Venezuela forced companies to convert to new joint ventures where PDVSA has a majority stake or else have their property seized. Zambrano said that the target of firings were workers who were previously dismissed from PDVSA for their participation in a nationwide civic strike from December 2002 to February 2003. Foreign firms then hired them in operational agreements.

http://english.eluniversal.com/2006/04/04/en_eco_art_04A690163.shtml

Venezuelan Minister Downplays Possible Effect of Oil Seizures on Other Investors

Venezuela’s foreign minister said his country’s seizure of oil fields from France’s Total SA and Italy’s Eni SPA won’t hurt relations with other international investors. The move “doesn’t affect anything,” Foreign Minister Ali Rodriguez told The Associated Press on Tuesday. PDVSA seized the fields after Total and Eni failed to reach agreements to convert their Venezuelan investments into joint ventures where the government has the majority stake. Venezuela is the fourth biggest supplier of crude and third biggest supplier of petroleum products to the United States.

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/060404/cuba_venezuela_oil.html?v=1

Nigerian President to Meet with Stakeholders in Niger Delta despite Boycott

Nigerian president Olusegun Obasanjo is going ahead with peace talks with stakeholders from the Niger Delta despite the decision of Ijaw leader, Chief Edwin Clark, and some others to boycott the meeting. The boycott has dashed hopes for a peaceful settlement of the conflict between the government and rebels which has shut in over a quarter of the country’s production. Nigeria is the fifth largest crude supplier to the United States.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200604050192.html>

Update: Nigerian Oil Minister Says Oil Shut-in to Drop to 420,000 bpd by April 6

Edmund Daukoru has said that Shell assured him that all of the 420,000 b/d of shut-in production in the Niger Delta should be back on line in 30 days.

Reuters, 08:46 April 5, 2006.

Natural Gas**MMS Reports Updated Gulf of Mexico Gas Restoration Statistics April 5**

A total of 87 oil and gas platforms remain evacuated which is equivalent to 10.62 percent of the 819 manned platforms operating in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM). Shut-in gas production is 1.362 BCFPD. This shut-in gas production is equivalent to 13.62 percent of the daily gas production in the GOM, which is approximately 10 BCFPD. The cumulative shut-in gas production 8/26/05-4/5/06 is 711.634 BCF, which is equivalent to 19.497 percent of the yearly production of gas in the GOM (approximately 3.65 TCF).

<http://www.mms.gov/ooc/press/2006/press0405.htm>

Duke Energy to Expand Texas Eastern Natgas Pipeline to Northeast U.S.

The expansion from Ohio to New Jersey would add 150 MMcf/d of supply to growing markets in the U.S. Northeast.

Reuters, 15:38 April 5, 2006.

Crosstex Completes 250 MMcf/d North Texas Pipeline

Crosstex Energy L.P. on Wednesday said it has completed construction of its 250 MMcf/d North Texas Pipeline, which runs roughly 140 miles to transport natural gas from the Barnett Shale. A portion of the pipeline, which will serve mostly Texas markets, began operating in February. Additional compression could increase the line's capacity to 375 MMcf/d. Natural gas production in the Barnett Shale averages 1.4 Bcf/d.

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/060405/crosstex_pipeline_completed.html?v=3

Southern Union to Upgrade LNG terminal in Lake Charles, Louisiana

The project will let the plant warm and regasify the LNG with ambient air, reducing the need for fuel.

Reuters, 07:36 April 5, 2006.

AES Corporation Plans to Construct New LNG Receiving Terminal and Pipeline System on the East Coast

www.Industrialinfo.com

Suez Offshore Florida LNG Terminal Put on Fast Track

With review of its proposed onshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in the Bahamas stalled, Suez Energy North America said it has put an offshore Florida LNG deepwater port on the fast track by duplicating much of the design work done on its Neptune LNG project offshore Boston.

Natural Gas Intelligence, April 4, 2006.

FERC Approves Pre-filing Bid for Sparrows Point LNG Terminal in Maryland

FERC on Monday approved an AES Corp. affiliate's request to begin the pre-filing process for a proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal to be located at the old Bethlehem Steel Sparrows Point industrial site on Baltimore Harbor.

Natural Gas Intelligence, April 4, 2006.

FERC Approves Pre-filing Bid for TransColorado's Blanco-to-Meeker Expansion

FERC gave a nod to TransColorado Gas Transmission's request to initiate the pre-filing process under the National Environmental Policy Act for its proposed Blanco-to-Meeker expansion, which would support gas flows to the planned Rockies Express Pipeline project.

Natural Gas Intelligence, April 4, 2006.

Other News

GAO Releases Report on Nuclear Power Plant Security

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06555t.pdf>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices April 5, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	67.76	66.00	55.88
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	6.89	7.16	7.46

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Columbia Gas Line in New York Extends Cold Alert for Third Day

Reuters, 11:52 April 5, 2006.

Energy Secretary Bodman Says DOE Not Interested in Skull Valley Nuclear Waste Site

<http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,635196821,00.html>

Energy Secretary to Send Congress Legislative Proposal on Nuclear Waste Disposal

Secretary Bodman promised to deliver the proposal today, April 5.

<http://www.energy.gov/news/3428.htm>

OPEC Will Not Take Supply Action When Ministers Meet in June - Delegate

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8366820.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil&src=null>

Failed Abqaiq Attack in February Assured Investors of Saudi Arabia's Infrastructure Security Strength – Analysts

http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/business/1310AP_Saudi_Oil_Security.html

Iran Holds War Games in Gulf

<http://www.forbes.com/business/feeds/afx/2006/04/03/afx2642577.html>

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

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